



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St Paul District

APPLICANT:

City of Lake St. Croix
Beach

Public Notice

ISSUED: 04/22/2024

EXPIRES: 05/07/2024

REFER TO: 2021-01484-DWW

Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899

1. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO install up to 50 temporary dock/mooring buoy structures (31 seasonal, temporary dock structures and 19 seasonal, temporary mooring structures) within the St. Croix River along a stretch of 3,350 linear feet of shoreline directly adjacent to the City of Lake St. Croix Beach (LSCB) owned Shoreland Park. The proposal would be outside the of the "Swimming Beach exclusion zone".

2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION

APPLICANT

City of Lake St. Croix Beach
c/o Dave Engstrom, Administrator
16455 20th Street South
Lake St. Croix Beach, MN 55043

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in Section 11, Township 28 North, Range 20 West, Washington County, Minnesota. The approximate UTM coordinates are Zone 15, N 4974700, E 518500. Latitude 44.9217659961349, Longitude -92.7640253545602.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

Please note that a Corps Public Notice was issued for the project on 2/15/2022 with a 30-day comment period expiration on 3/17/2022. Comments were accepted for the project during the comment period and have been retained in the file as part of this review. We are providing a second Corps Public Notice as a result of our additional coordination efforts with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR). The MnDNR has considered this proposal as a public mooring facility. The MnDNR has limited the number of dock structures to 31, with dock widths to be limited to 10 feet and may not extend beyond 100 linear feet from shoreline. Any existing docks greater than 10 feet in width would be removed or replaced with docks 10 feet or less in width by 2029. Also, mooring buoys would be placed no greater than 200 feet from shore. The MnDNR has identified the maximum number of watercraft that can use the facility. The Corps does not regulate the amount of watercraft that could be used for each structure.

The Corps had previously authorized LSCB to install temporary dock/mooring structures within the St. Croix River under a Department of the Army (DA) permit 81-655-12 in 1983. The DA permit also included special conditions for the dock/mooring buoy structure's design criteria, including size specifications. LSCB had requested a new Corps DA permit to modify the number of structures to be authorized under a DA permit and to modify the widths and lengths of dock structures. The proposed project would include up to 50 temporary dock/mooring buoy structures (31 seasonal, temporary dock structures and 19 seasonal, temporary mooring structures) within the St. Croix River along a stretch of 3,350 linear feet of shoreline directly adjacent to the City Lake of St. Croix Beach owned Shoreland Park, outside of the 1,000 linear foot "Swimming Beach exclusion zone".

The dock width would be 10 feet and the dock length must only extend into the water from the shoreline out to the point where there is adequate depth to accomplish the primary purpose of the dock but would not extend beyond 100 feet from the city shoreline. Many of the docks would extend 60 feet from the city shoreline. The mooring buoys would likely be the standard floating 12-inch diameter size. Mooring buoys would be placed no greater than 200 feet from shore. The docks/mooring buoy structures would be removed from the project location each year before winter.

The number of city-approved structures would be limited to 50 dock/mooring buoy structures and general location identified in this proposal. Docks would generally be spaced 100 feet apart. Buoys would also generally be spaced approximately 100 feet apart.

All dock structures would be removed prior to winter and may be stored at nearby marinas. In the spring, floating docks are towed into Shoreland Park from the winter storage areas. The docks are then floated to their appropriate positions in the St. Croix River and dock posts (spuds) are lowered to anchor the docks into place to the riverbed.

The anchor for the buoys would either be a 3-anchor or cement anchor system embedded in the riverbed as required by the city. The floating buoy marker would be removed prior to winter as well. The mooring buoys must meet the U.S. Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Standards including white with blue horizontal band, cylinder or sphere shaped, and may show a white reflector.

QUANTITY, TYPE, AND AREA OF FILL: No dredged or fill material would be required for the project. However, the dock and buoy structures would be located within a Navigable Water of the U.S. (Section 10 Water under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899).

VEGETATION IN AFFECTED AREA: The aquatic vegetation in the project area includes minor components of emergent and submergent vegetation.

SOURCE OF FILL MATERIAL: No dredged or fill material would be required for the project.

SURROUNDING LAND USE: The dock and buoy structures would be located in the St. Croix River along a stretch of 3,350 linear feet of shoreline, outside of the 1,000 linear foot "Swimming Beach exclusion zone", directly adjacent to the LSCB owned Shoreland Park.

Adjacent land uses to the park are residential, single-family homes, an apartment building, and a church.

DESCRIPTION OF STRUCTURES: The maximum size of the docks would be 100 linear feet in length from city shoreline and 10 feet in width. The buoy would most likely be the standard floating 12-inch diameter size anchored into the riverbed.

DESCRIPTION OF DREDGING OR EXCAVATION: No dredging or excavation would be required for the project.

MITIGATION: No mitigation was proposed by the applicant as no loss of aquatic resource functions is proposed.

3. FEDERALLY-LISTED THREATENED OR ENDANGERED WILDLIFE OR PLANTS OR THEIR CRITICAL HABITAT.

None were identified by the applicant or are known to exist in the permit area. However, Washington County is within the known or historic range of the following Federally-listed species:

Northern Long-Eared Bat	Hibernates in caves and mines – swarming in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. Roosts and forages in upland forests during spring and summer.
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee	Habitat is in natural and semi-natural upland grassland, shrubland, woodlands, and forests.
Higgins Eye Mussel (pearlymussel)	Habitat is in larger rivers where it is usually found in deep water with moderate currents.
Spectaclecase Mussel	Habitat is in larger rivers where they live in areas sheltered from the main force of the river current.
Winged Mapleleaf Mussel	Habitat is in riffles with clean gravel, sand, or rubble bottoms and in clear, high-quality water. In the past, habitat may also have been in large rivers and streams on mud, mud-covered gravel, and gravel bottoms.

This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Any comments it may have concerning Federally-listed threatened or endangered wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

4. JURISDICTION

This application is being reviewed in accordance with the practices for documenting Corps jurisdiction under Sections 9 & 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

5. HISTORICAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL

This public notice is being sent to the National Park Service and the State Archaeologist for their comments. The Corps will review information on known cultural resources and/or historic properties within and adjacent to the project area. The Corps will also consider the potential effects of the project on any properties that have yet to be identified. The results of this review and the Corps' determination of effect will be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer independent of this public notice. Any adverse effects on historic properties will be resolved prior to the Corps authorization, or approval, of the work in connection with this project.

6. PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, in detail, the reasons for holding a public hearing. A request may be denied if substantive reasons for holding a hearing are not provided or if there is otherwise no valid interest to be served.

7. PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Environmental and other documents will be available for review in the St. Paul District Office.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

8. COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT.

This Public Notice has been sent to the agency responsible for Coastal Zone Management and is considered by the District Engineer to constitute valid notification to that agency for a Coastal Zone Consistency determination.

REPLIES/COMMENTS

Interested parties are invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections by the expiration date indicated above. These statements should bear upon the suitability of the location and the adequacy of the project and should, if appropriate, suggest any changes believed to be desirable. Comments received may be forwarded to the applicant.

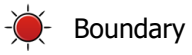
Replies may be sent to Daryl W. Wierzbinski at daryl.w.wierzbinski@usace.army.mil

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROJECT, contact Daryl W. Wierzbinski at the Duluth office at (218) 788-6406 or daryl.w.wierzbinski@usace.army.mil

To receive Public Notice notifications, go to: <https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Contact/RSS/> and subscribe to the RSS Feed for which you would like to receive Public Notices.

Enclosures:

Legend



● LSCB North Boundary

● LSCB South Boundary

Afton

Lake St Croix Beach

Lake St
Croix
Beach

Pettitt
Park

St Mary's Point

St Mary's
Point

Lake St Croix

MINNESOTA
WISCONSIN

Washington County, MN, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P,
USGS, EPA, USDA, Dakota County, Maxar, Esri, HERE, Garmin, iPC



2021-01484-DWW

0 0.13 0.25 0.5
mi

Map Center: 92.7651°W 44.92553°N

Map Created by: DWW

Date: 4/11/2024

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Web
Mercator Auxiliary Sphere

